

Discovery Committee Minutes, April 17, 2013

Present: Stephanie Cheney, Amy Cunningham, Steve Pugh, Kathie Forbes, Dan Beller-McKenna, Brian Chu, Barb White (via phone), Rosemary Caron, Brett Branscombe (Absent: Bill Ross, Ihab Farag-votes received via email; Wayne Fagerberg, Tom Safford-votes received via email; Lisa MacFarlane, Jing Wang, Sean Moore)

Next meeting: Wednesday, MAY 1, 2013

Approval of the April 3, 2013 Minutes – *To be reviewed at the meeting of May 1, 2013.*

The committee took the following action:

The following courses were reviewed, and/or confirmed in the categories/attributes listed:

CEPS

MATH 421 – *Pathways Between Mathematics & the Arts* – QR (re-submit from Nov, '12 – course was tabled pending additional information)

The following courses were re-reviewed and/or re-confirmed due to format change:

CHHS

FS 545 – *Family Relations* – SS – online (summer, 2013) – **Motion:** To approve as equitable to the originally proposed and confirmed course. **Vote:** 5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. **Motion passed, course approved.**

FS 525 – *Human Development* – SS – online (summer, 2013; and forward) – **Motion:** To approve as equitable to the originally proposed and confirmed course. **Vote:** 5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. **Motion passed, course approved.**

FS 444 – *We Don't All Play the Violin: Stories & Stereotypes of Asian Americans* – HP – (summer session, 2013) **Motion:** To approve as equitable to the originally proposed and confirmed course with the stipulation that the summer syllabus be revised and WI criteria be clearly articulated. **Vote:** 5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain.

Student Petitions

- Senior petitioning to graduate without meeting ETS due to faculty advising error. Advisor recommended 3T course that is not Discovery ETS. DC will approve this exception based on extenuating circumstances. Kathie Forbes will send the approval letter. (*jhunhm0413*)
- Sophomore petitioning to have Humanities requirement waved due to time constraints, being in heavily prescribed major, and a desire to take courses they are more interested in. The DC does not approve this petition. Kathie Forbes will send the denial letter. (*ldiceps0413*)

The Committee discussed the following:

Petitions - The DC discussed that if an advisor told a student that a particular course fulfilled a requirement and is willing to state on a petition that they misadvised a student, the DC would be more likely to approve. With a course like HUMA 651, for example, since it is Gen Ed Humanities and science students have often used it to fulfill that requirement, perhaps COLSA could consider whether they want to put it forward for Discovery HUMA. Discovery may need to remind people that Gen Ed and Discovery lists are not the same - courses that were Gen Ed are not necessarily Discovery.

On a separate note, there needs to be some responsibility back in departments in that students can't just petition if they don't want to meet a requirement. Barb suggested posted something on the Discovery website, language regarding petitioning and maybe it should be brought up at Faculty Senate.

Rubric for Format Change Review – The rubric is to help ascertain whether content in the reformatted version of the course including assignments, tests and papers proposed are consistent with the originally proposed and confirmed Discovery course and if this is reflected in the syllabus and, if applicable, other course documents. The rubric is very straight forward with four questions, and is a good way to document the process by which we are confirming for upcoming NEASC review. Barb asked the DC for feedback on the rubric.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.

Submitted by Jenny Wu